

Central Intelligence Agency



Washington, D.C. 20505

LEG-Subj.
FILE:
COVERT
ACTION

24 MAY 1985

OLL#85-1011/3

The Honorable Peter W. Rodino, Jr.
Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

This letter responds to your request for the views of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) concerning H.R. 1348, a bill to prohibit United States Government involvement in assassinations. Mr. Casey has asked me to respond on his behalf.

We believe that the objectives of this legislation have already been met. As you are aware, all persons employed by or acting on behalf of the United States Government, including the CIA and other Intelligence Community agencies, are specifically prohibited by Executive Order 12333 from engaging in, or conspiring to engage in assassination, and this provision has not been violated. Strong Executive Branch and Congressional safeguards are in place to ensure that such activities would be discovered and dealt with accordingly.

This Agency has an Inspector General's office which is responsible for investigating any information indicating violations of the Executive Order. In addition, under Executive Order 12334 the President has established an Intelligence Oversight Board (IOB), which is charged with reporting to the President any intelligence activity that violates the Constitution or laws of the United States, Executive orders, or Presidential directives. The IOB is also responsible for reviewing Agency practices and procedures for discovering and reporting intelligence activities that may be unlawful or contrary to Executive order or Presidential directive and for conducting any investigation needed to carry out these functions.

Congress itself exercises strong oversight with respect to intelligence activities through the House and Senate Select Committees on Intelligence. This oversight responsibility extends to any improper or illegal intelligence activity, including assassinations, and the Director of Central Intelligence and heads of all other agencies involved in intelligence activities are required by law to report to the intelligence committees any illegal intelligence activity.

We feel confident that these legal limitations and oversight mechanisms already in place are effective in preventing Intelligence Community employees from engaging in assassinations, and that there is no demonstrable need to supplement the existing ban on assassinations with legislation that would impose criminal liability on Intelligence Community employees.

The Office of Management and Budget has advised that there is no objection to the submission of this report from the standpoint of the Administration's program. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this legislation.

Sincerely,

/s/Charles A. Briggs

Charles A. Briggs
Director, Office of Legislative Liaison

Distribution:

Original - Addressee

1 - General Counsel

1 - []/OGC

1 - D/OLL

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LEG/OLL [] (23 May 85)

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OLL 85-1011

Office of Legislative Liaison
Routing Slip

| TO: | ACTION | INFO |
|-----------------------|--------|--------------------|
| 1. D/OLL | | X |
| 3. DD/OLL | | X |
| 3. Admin Officer | | |
| 4. Liaison | | X |
| 5. Legislation | X | |
| 6 | | X |
| 7 | | X |
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| SUSPENSE | | 1 Apr 1985 Date |

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| Action Officer: | |
| Remarks: | |
| <i>Action completed per LTR DTD 24 May 85</i> | |

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Name/Date

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EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

ROUTING SLIP

| TO: | | ACTION | INFO | DATE | INITIAL |
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| 1 | DCI | | X | | |
| 2 | DDCI | | X | | |
| 3 | EXDIR | | X | | |
| 4 | D/ICS | | | | |
| 5 | DDI | | X | | |
| 6 | DDA | | | | |
| 7 | DDO | | X | | |
| 8 | DDS&T | | | | |
| 9 | Chm/NIC | | | | |
| 10 | GC | | X | | |
| 11 | IG | | | | |
| 12 | Compt | | | | |
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| 14 | D/OLL | X | | | |
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Remarks

To 14: Please have response prepared for signature of appropriate individual.

STAT

Executive Secretary

26 March 1985

Date

3637 (10-81)

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

March 22, 1985

Executive Registry

85-

1321

Re: H.R. 1348, to prohibit United States
Government involvement in
assassinations.

LEGISLATIVE LIAISON

85-1011

Honorable William J. Casey
Director
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith are copies of the captioned
bill pending before this Committee.

I shall appreciate your furnishing the Committee
with an expression of your views on the proposed legislation.

Sincerely yours,



PETER W. RODINO, JR.
Chairman

cc: Office of Management and Budget
Legislative Reference Division
Room 7201, NEOB
Washington, D.C. 20503

Central Intelligence Agency



Washington D.C. 20505

LEG FILE
COVERT ACTION

OLL#85-1011/1

3 APR 1985

The Honorable Peter W. Rodino, Jr.
Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

This letter is in response to your request for the views of the Central Intelligence Agency concerning H.R. 1348, a bill to prohibit United States Government involvement in assassinations.

We have prepared a response that contains the Agency's position with respect to this bill which we will shortly send you following appropriate Administration coordination and clearance.

Sincerely,

/s/Charles A. Briggs

Charles A. Briggs
Director, Office of Legislative Liaison

Distribution:
Addressee-Original
1-D/OLL
1-DD/OLL
1-General Counsel
1-Executive Secretary
①-Subject (covert action)
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OLL:LEG:DMP:rme (2Apr85)